

# WESTON LEADER

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## 37 PEOPLE KILLED WHEN TRAINS MEET

### One Train Jumps From Track Directly Into Path of Another.

Porter, Ind.—Thirty-seven bodies were recovered from the wreck Sunday night when the Canadian and the Interstate Limited, on the Michigan Central and the New York Central lines, respectively, crashed at a crossing here.

Some seven or eight of the bodies, which were badly mutilated, may never be identified.

The Michigan Central train had been derailed by the automatic block system. It plunged ahead on the ties until it came to rest across the New York Central right of way, with two day coaches at the point of intersection.

At nearly sixty miles an hour, the New York Central train came on, the glare of its headlight warning many of the doomed passengers, who leaped from their seats. One or two reached the doors, but not one escaped the crash.

The wreck occurred at this lonely junction point, which is about 50 miles from Chicago.

The accident was caused, according to railway officials, when the Michigan Central train crew failed to observe stop signals at the intersection of the two roads and was thrown onto the New York Central tracks from the derail switch.

## CONFERENCE ON MANDATES INVITED

Paris.—The council of the League of Nations, in its reply to the American note on the mandates question, invites the United States to send a representative to the next meeting of the council, to be held in April, it was learned here. The reply was cabled to Washington by the American embassy.

Concerning the island of Yap, the reply says the council was obliged to accept the decision of the supreme council. It indicates, however, that the whole question may be reopened if the Washington government sees fit to send a plenipotentiary to discuss the matter.

## PANAMA PRESIDENT SAVED

U. S. Troops Stop Mob That Broke Into Mansion.

Panama.—One person is dead and four others are suffering from wounds when the presidential guard fired upon a mob which broke into the executive mansion here.

American troops arrived at the home of President Porras just in time to save the president's life.

The attack upon the palace was instigated by men who had become maddened over a published interview in which President Porras was quoted as having declared himself favorable to a diplomatic settlement with Costa Rica after Panama had recovered territory Costa Rica forces seized last week. It is asserted the mob which broke into the palace intended to assassinate Senor Porras.

## War Laws Repeal Voted by Senate.

Washington, D. C.—The house resolution providing for general repeal of war-time laws was adopted by the senate. Virtually all laws passed during the war would be repealed by the resolution except a few given special exemption, including the trading-with-the-enemy act, the liberty bond act and the act creating the war finance corporation.

## Costa Rica Force Taken, 4 Killed.

Panama.—Four Costa Ricans were killed and nine wounded and two Panamanians were wounded in fighting at Coto, on the Pacific side of the Costa Rica-Panama frontier. The Costa Rican force which occupied Coto was captured.

## Partial Payment to Railroads Signed.

Washington. — President Wilson signed the Winslow bill authorizing partial payments to railroads under provisions of the transportation act.

## Army of 175,000 Approved by Senate.

Washington. — The senate passed and sent to a conference committee the army bill providing for an army of 175,000.

## Oregon News Notes

The Hood River county court has increased the salary of the fruit inspector to \$2500 a year.

An electric cancelling machine has been received and placed in operation by the Bend postoffice.

Total tax levies in Union county for the year 1920 show an increase from \$580,711.25 to \$622,649.20.

Scarlet fever and measles have reached the epidemic stage in several sections of Douglas county.

The wool and mohair growers of Lane county met at Eugene and organized a cooperative association.

The state irrigation securities commission has approved the entire issue of \$1,150,000 of Medford irrigation district bonds.

The Clatskanie kraut plant, owned by the Oregon Packing company, has closed the season with a total output of 800 tons.

The road fund of Columbia county, including some special taxes voted by several road districts, amounts to almost \$200,000.

A 25-foot section of the pavement on the Columbia highway, just west of Clatskanie, was carried away Sunday by a slide.

Albert Peterson, government trapper at Ukiah, in Umatilla county, reports a month's catch of 19 coyotes and three bobcats.

Raymond B. Esheleman, former flex expert at the Oregon state penitentiary, died at Salem hospital after an illness of several weeks.

Fire, caused by the explosion of hot paraffine, gutted the interior of the Willamette-Valley Telephone company's office at Falls City.

The Pacific Power & Light company has asked permission of the public service commission to increase gas rates and street car fares in Astoria.

Harry Wilson, a laborer of Eugene, has left for his old home in Boston, Mass., declaring his intention of walking the entire distance from coast to coast.

The taxpayers of Astoria school district voted on the question of authorizing an indebtedness of \$75,000 for the building of an annex to the high school building.

A new engine has been purchased by the Hood River fire department at a cost of \$13,000, and a new fire hall costing \$38,000 has been finished and equipped.

John McCue, an expert logger employed by the Western Export & Logging company near Cottage Grove, was instantly killed when he was struck by a falling tree.

The annual report of the Mount Angel Creamery company shows that during the last 12 months total sales amounted to \$104,000 and \$164,000 was paid to patrons for butterfat.

With the exception of measures carrying emergency clauses, all bills passed at the recent session of the legislature and signed by the governor will become operative on May 25.

Farm bureau representatives from all parts of the state have been at work the past week obtaining members among the farmers of Columbia county. A total of 456 was signed.

A mass meeting of the farmers of the county was held at Baker Saturday for the purpose of organizing the wheat growers of the county into the Oregon Cooperative Grain Growers.

Central Oregon's first highway work of the spring season commenced near Bend with the laying of concrete culverts on the Bond-Horse Ridge road, recently authorized by the state commission.

The Winchester hospital for the cure of tuberculosis, which was originally proposed to establish at Winchester, Douglas county, has filed notice of dissolution with the state corporation commissioner.

Colts, calves and other livestock in the Topsy vicinity of Klamath county, having disappeared rapidly within the last few weeks, W. L. Frain took the trail of a mountain lion and after four days succeeded in killing it.

## Walla Walla Valley Crops.

According to County Agent W. H. Talley, crops of the Walla Walla valley, exclusive of wheat, were worth more than five million dollars. Apples represent more than one million, prunes approximately \$540,000 and cherries \$180,000. The wheat crop of the valley, five million bushels, added \$7,500,000 to the grand total. Alfalfa hay brought in nearly a million dollars, even at the prevailing low prices. Dairy products are not included in the estimate, although the valley contains 10,000 dairy cattle. The figures indicate that the martyred Dr. Whitman builded better than he knew.

## An Elephant On His Hands



## FROM "OVER THE HILL"

F. S. Le Grow left Tuesday evening to spend a week on his stock ranch in Montana.

Mrs. D. H. Sanders left Saturday for Corvallis for a visit with her invalid mother, Mrs. Ashpaugh.

R. L. and E. L. Christensen, sons of Middleton, Idaho, visiting at the home of their mother.

Bob Proudft tolled Omar Stephens, Fred Radtke and Billy Pinkerton to the Umatilla river, yesterday in quest of steelheads.

The baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Murphy, died Monday of spinal meningitis, after an illness of several days.

Scott D. Fisher and Henry Schroeder are at work on the interior of the new home for the local telephone exchange. The switchboard will be moved from the present location to the new location, second door west of the First National Bank, Sunday, and

for that reason it will be necessary to suspend telephone service at Athens from 8 p. m., March 5th, to 12 noon, Sunday March 6th.

J. T. L'euallen, who recently returned from California, where he and his family spent the winter at Long Beach, was in the city Friday visiting his sister, Mrs. Caton.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hales, who spent the winter at Salem, returned last week. Mr. Hales is employed on the George Thompson ranch northwest of Athens.

Miss Gladys Dickenson was taken to the sanitarium at College Place this week for treatment. She has been unable to attend school for some time.

John Benson, who in the past has displayed considerable art in wood work, has completed a beautiful altar, which he presented to Pythian Lodge No. 29, K. of P., last evening. C. O. Henry and York Dell furnished

the material, with the exception of a center piece, which is of myrtle and was secured at Marshfield by Mr. Benson. The surface of the altar is inlaid with twenty-nine triangles of highly burnished wood, corresponding to the charter number of the local lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Beckner and Mr. Fred Beckner will leave tomorrow for Montana, where they will be employed on the Le Grow stock ranch, near Phillipsburg.

Athens friends of Mrs. Nellie Taggart, nee Foss, will regret to learn of her serious illness at her home in Spokane. At last accounts she was reported to be recovering from a surgical operation.

Mrs. E. H. Caton was again taken to Walla Walla, after spending a few days here. Tom Caton came down from Spokane to meet his mother and other members of the family.

The well being driven on the Rob't. Coppock residence property on corner of Fourth and Adams street, by Mr. West, had reached a depth of 211 feet at quitting time last evening.

Mrs. M. M. Johns, who has spent the winter here with her sons, left Saturday morning for her home at Vancouver, Wash.

Louis Audette, who raised wheat on a ranch south of Athens, is down from his home in Alberta. He is farming 800 acres of land in the King's dominion, and has flattering crop prospects for the coming season.

Born, March 4, 1921, to Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Hansell, a boy.

Families of Charles Gerking and George B. Woodward are home from Long Beach, Calif. They made the return trip in their automobiles with the exception of a few miles in the mountains, where they shipped their cars on the railroad, between a couple of stations.

James Henderson expects to leave on March 15th for his old home in the north of Ireland for an extended visit with relatives. He has leased his land holdings in Alberta for a year in order that he may be free to make the trip. James has promised the Press man a blackthorn cane, cut from a hedge in old Erin.

## A Dry Fish Ladder.

That old, old story relative to the annual negligence on the part of the authorities in not providing a suitable ascending place for salmon over the dam on the Umatilla river, below Hermiston, is verified by Robert Proudft, who was at the dam last Sunday. Mr. Proudft says the fish ladder is dry as a bone, with thousands of steelheads battering themselves against the impassable obstruction, and plenty of surplus water diverted from the head of the ladder. Mr. Proudft says that only a little attention to the matter by those in authority, would place the ladder in condition for the salmon to ascend the river to their spawning grounds.

## Pendleton Talks Base Ball.

The baseball warble is abroad in the land, with the result that bats, balls and mitts are in demand by the sand-lot youngsters, and the older heads the world over, are beginning to size up respective local conditions. In this county Pendleton is leading out with dope covering the county seat town; to the effect that she has plenty of good material that's just rarin' to go. Pendleton says she will be satisfied this year with anything from Blue Mountain league ball to the independent article. Athens has not as yet intimated what she wants.

## Farmers Working Roads.

Farmers in the territory tributary to Athens have been working the roads during the past week, with the result that the country highways are in much better condition for traveling than formerly. The county court let it be known that no funds were available for road work, and if the farmers had not turned out and worked, the thoroughfares would soon have become impassable. The roads in some instances have been dragged, with satisfactory results, while in other instances work of a more permanent nature has been accomplished.

## His 77th Birthday Anniversary.

At their beautiful home in Glendale, California, the 77th birthday anniversary of Henry Koepke, Sr., was most fittingly observed on February 18th, when his estimable wife surprised him with a surprise party the guests including the Umatilla county colony wintering at Long Beach and other Southern California points. A delightful afternoon was spent and a splendid luncheon served by Mrs. Koepke. The afternoon was spent with old friends in talking over old times.

## FARM LOAN ACT DECLARED VALID

Applications to hand  
Aggregating \$20,000,000  
Tied Up Since May.

Washington.—The farm loan act designed to assist agricultural development by providing readily available credits to farmers through federal land banks, was declared valid by the supreme court.

In an opinion, which Commissioner Lobdell of the farm loan board declared removed every shadow of question as to the legality of the banks and their bonds, the court held congress had authority to establish the land banks and to exempt the bonds from state taxation.

He announced there would be an immediate issue of farm loan bonds to finance the hundreds of millions of dollars in loans approved by the board.

Farm loans aggregating more than \$20,000,000 have been held up since May, 1920, as a result of the suit.

Applications to this amount were pending when Commissioner Lobdell announced at a conference of farm loan officials here that official approval would be withheld pending a decision of the court.

Officials placed the total amount of loans to farmers held in abeyance by the suit at many times \$20,000,000, however, the receipt of applications having stopped with Commissioner Lobdell's announcement. On March 1, 1920, the farm loan board reported that \$122,897,000 had been advanced to 75,284 farmers and that applications from 175,754 persons then pending totaled \$471,000,000.

## SIX IRISHMEN ARE SHOT BY MILITARY

Cork.—Despite the appeal for clemency made recently by the Cork corporation, the six Irishmen in full hero, whose deaths were fixed for Monday on charges of levying war against the crown forces, were executed by the military. The men were shot in batches of two each at intervals of 10 minutes.

The men executed were Timothy Mc Carthy, Thomas O'Brien, Patrick Mc honey, John Lyons, Daniel Callaghan and John Allen.

The first five were condemned on an attack upon the crown forces at Dripsey, County Cork, in January, 1920, when they were captured. The sixth was sentenced for possessing a revolver and ammunition.

It was his sentence which the King's bench confirmed February 26, in deciding that a state of war existed in Ireland, giving the military full power to act without interference by the courts.

## LOAN TO RUSSIA EXPIRES

Obligation Contracted by Kerensky Government Now Payable.

Washington, D. C.—Certificates of indebtedness signed by a representative of the Kerensky government of Russia for a loan of \$127,000,000 have expired, the senate was informed by Secretary Houston. The obligation therefore is a demand one, he added, with interest and principal payable immediately but no steps have been taken toward collection.

The debt now amounts to more than \$200,000,000, he said.

The information was given in response to a senate resolution and said that the advances had been made to the Russian government for its own purposes.

## Teddy Roosevelt Gets Naval Post.

St. Augustine, Fla.—President-elect Harding formally announced the appointment of Edwin Denby, Michigan, as secretary of the navy and Colonel Theodore Roosevelt of New York as assistant secretary. Theodore Roosevelt will make his first appearance in the federal government in the same capacity as that in which his late father started.

## President Signs Alien Property Bill.

Washington. — President Wilson signed a bill providing for the return by the alien property custodian of property seized during the war and which belonged to women citizens of the United States and the allies who married enemy subjects before the declaration of war.